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A LOOK AT THE
SEC'S FOOTBALL
SPECIAL TEAM
RANKINGS

p. 5



weather

06/24/2011

thunderstorms 50%
high: 86 low: 68

06/25/2011

thunderstorms 40%
high: 90 low: 71



THE MISSISSIPPIAN CENTENNIAL
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THE DAILY

MISSISSIPPIAN

FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2011 | VOL. 100, NO. 149 | THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI | SERVING OLE MISS AND OXFORD SINCE 1911 | THEDMONLINE.COM

IRS REVOKES NON-PROFIT STATUS FROM LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

BY LEE HARRIS

The Daily Mississippian

The Internal Revenue Service has revoked the non-profit status of some organizations in Oxford and at the University of Mississippi for failing to file required tax returns.

Zeta Phi Beta and Alpha Kappa Alpha sororities and Omega Psi Phi fraternity, along with the Society of Pi Kappa Lambda were included among 35 local organizations that recently lost non-profit status.

All non-profit organizations are required to file a return every year, regardless of revenue; however, before the passage of the Pension Protection Act of 2006, only non-profits with more than \$25,000 in revenue were required to file. Approximately 275,000 organizations in the United States have lost non-profit status.

Most of the organizations listed in the Oxford/University area were either unreachable or inactive. The Helm NROTC midshipman fund is in the process of re-applying. Pi Kappa Lambda student officials said the organization was unaware of the requirement; representatives of Zeta Phi Beta, Alpha Kappa Alpha and Omega Psi Phi could not be reached for comment.

IRS spokesperson Dee Stepter said the requirement helps keep track of the smaller non-profits.

"What it's going to do is increase transparency by requiring the smaller organizations to now file information returns," Stepter said. "It also assisted us in making sure that our records were up to date."

Stepter said without these new requirements, the IRS would be unable to know which organizations were still functioning.

"Once they applied for tax-exempt status, the smaller organizations were not required to file any additional information," she said. "So, if they no longer existed, we did not have that information."

These organizations would be required to pay taxes on their income if they lose their tax-exempt status. Additionally, any donations made to these organizations would no longer be tax-deductible.

Any donations made after June 9, 2011, (the date the IRS published the revocation list) will not be allowed as an income tax deduction for the donor.

"We're trying to make sure we have the most up-to-date information to assist taxpayers who are donating to these organizations and to keep our records straight," Stepter said.

Another issue stemming lack of oversight is the possibility for abuse.

Ole Miss accountancy professor Tonya Flesher said she doesn't believe this is the primary purpose of the law, but it could help to prevent it nonetheless.

"Someone could pick up that name and that information and use that organization's original application for purposes for which it was not intended," Flesher said. "It was very difficult for the IRS to find out whether the rules are being used correctly and these organizations exist for an exempt purpose."

Stepter said the IRS tried every possible avenue to spread the word about the requirement. They sent the information to media organizations, reached out to foundations and organizations that work with non-profits and published the list of groups in danger of revocation on their website. They also sent notice to the last known address of these groups, but this effort was largely unsuccessful because these groups hadn't sent updated information to the IRS since their creation.

"That could be part of the problem with some of these organizations," Stepter said. "If they changed leadership or their address, they weren't required to file anything with IRS."

Flesher, who used to work in the tax-exempt division at the IRS, said constant shifting and changing within these organizations is to be expected because of the nature of the organizations.

"You're dealing with volunteers who don't get paid," Flesher said. "People are in these organizations for a while and then they drop out for

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THE IRS: BY THE NUMBERS



The IRS now requires all non-profit organizations to file taxes each year. However, 275,000 organizations in the United States have lost non-profit status after not filing tax returns between 2007 and 2010.

OLE MISS PROFESSOR RUNNING FOR STATE HOUSE



Oxford lawyer and University of Mississippi professor Jordan Bankhead is running for the District 10 representative seat in the state house in this November's election.

PETRE THOMAS
The Daily Mississippian

BY JACOB BATTE
News Editor

Ole Miss alumnus Jordan Bankhead is a man of many titles.

Lawyer, broker, business owner, professor and husband. He hopes to add another title to that list this November -- Mississippi's District 10 representative.

Bankhead, 34, is a manag-

ing broker at BC Real Estate, has his own law firm, is an adjunct political science professor at the university and also owns Rebel Paintball.

After getting married and practicing law for several years, Bankhead decided he wanted to get involved in public service.

"I called (former Oxford Mayor Richard Howorth) at

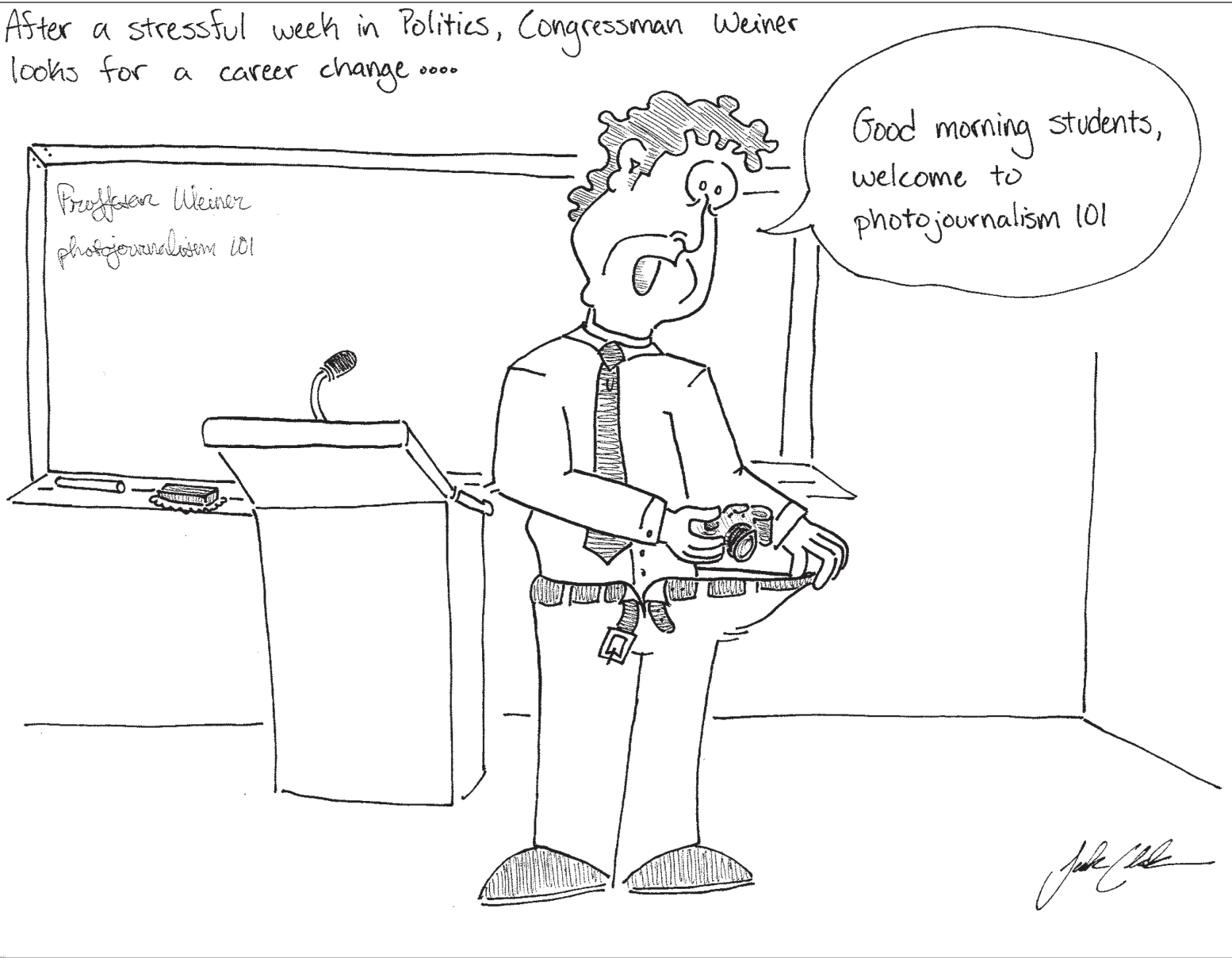
the time and said 'Put me to work,'" he said.

Bankhead served on the board of the LOU (Lafayette-Oxford-University) Home Corporation, which at one time had a connection to the university by moving faculty homes that were going to be destroyed to city-donated

See HOUSE, PAGE 4



BY JOSH CLARK
Senior Cartoonist



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THE BATTLE ON THE HOMEFRONT



BY JONECE
DUNIGAN
Columnist

President Obama announced Wednesday night what most American parents, spouses and siblings have been dreaming about.

After a decade of controlling rebellion, playing hide and seek with terrorists and daily death tolls, our troops are finally coming home.

According to Yahoo! News, the time frame for the plan to be initiated is not far away. Ten thousand soldiers will come home by the end of the year, 33,000 by September 2012 and the remainder will be back by the end of 2014.

Until then, the president has downgraded his plans for Afghanistan by training Afghanistan soldiers to defend their own nation, fix what the Taliban started and focus on al-Qaeda. While doing this, Obama is deciding to concentrate more on American needs, such as a new source of energy and creating jobs. After getting news about

the United States' debt exceeding the nation's annual income by 2021, the president's strategy does not sound like a bad idea at all.

Our ears have been itching for this and everyone should be whipping out their good old American apple pie and home-made vanilla ice cream ready to serve to our heroes right when they step off the plane. The other side of the political spectrum sees this opportunity as a too-much, too-soon type of plan. To them, the country is still unstable and a civil war could put the world at risk.

The thick haze of paranoia in their minds has made them blind to the lack of common sense in their statements. We are the best country in the world for a reason and that reason is freedom, because it is so priceless. Yes, we can stop innocents from being slaughtered and defeat enemies. But we are not supermen.

We cannot aid another country if we ourselves need help. Our slippery economy is causing Americans to lose housing, put their dreams on hold and, for some college students, make the choice between an education or diving straight into the work force to support their families.

The American Dream is suffocating at the moment and if we do not do whatever we can to save it, then the U.S. will end up being the very thing we set out to prevent. Every human has a fear of the unknown. We panic if we do not know if our bills are going to get paid on time or if we have enough money to pay for medicine that is vital for survival.

More money would be spent for a war of which most people have forgotten the purpose. What would make the situation even worse is the loss of both military and civilian lives.

If we were to wait for everyone

in Middle East to agree peacefully, we would never leave.

I am not saying the nation will never be stable. Our efforts have made some changes in the country. For example, advocates from Northern Afghanistan are making alliances with Southern, anti-Taliban tribal leaders.

If occurrences like this keep happening, Afghanistan will become a nice friend to have for just-in-case measures.

We have given them the tools to create peace within their nation. What the citizens construct is up to them because America cannot be their savior. For now, we need to fix the situation on American soil or else the soldiers will not recognize the home they are fighting for.

Jonece Dunigan is a sophomore journalism major from Canton, Miss. Follow her on Twitter @JoneceD.

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Student submissions must include grade classification and major. All submissions must be turned in at least three days in advance of date of desired publication.



The joy of dissatisfaction



BY ANDREW DICKSON
Columnist

I had my first work published in The Daily Mississippian one year ago this week. It ran inconspicuously on a Friday morning last year, a day much like today.

It was a feature written about former Ole Miss softballer Brittany Barnhill based on a rough 10-minute phone interview I conducted. It took hours to write because I thought I was cool enough to remember everything she said without recording it or writing it down.

I stayed up that night struggling to write and wondering what I had done to myself. I thought, "I signed up for this? If writing a player feature is this hard, I dread ever having to articu-

late my own opinion for a controversial topic." I decided then that it would be the only column I'd write.

Nevertheless, I went to school the next morning and picked up a paper, figuring I'd keep my article to remind myself writing is something I should remember not to try again.

But then I read it in print and it gave me an odd sense of semi-satisfaction that to this day, I have been trying to describe to you, hopefully with some success. I swore I heard someone say, "Write again, one day you'll be taking home something you're actually proud of."

You could say that day was my "birthday." For once in my adult life, I was happy

just because - that was the day I found out that I really was no one, but could be someone if I could stop spending the best years of my life waiting on the best years of my life.

Up until that point in my life, the way the world spins had made me dizzy and it felt worse when I stood in one place, so I was always pacing around or walking away. But the more I wrote, the more I learned how to take the world by storm - not by writing meaningless contrarian drivel so I could pick up the paper and show my friends how I "went there," but by challenging myself to find the most interesting angles in the stories I was most interested in.

Every time I sit down to write I get that funny feeling again - the "Divine Dissatisfaction" that comes from being happy with where I am while working to be more. American dancer Martha Graham described that feeling more eloquently than I ever could, "No artist is ever pleased; there is no satisfaction whatever at any time. There is only a queer divine dissatisfaction - a blessed unrest that keeps us marching and makes us more alive than the others."

I'm not satisfied with who I am. I still let the occasional thing I could laugh off bother me instead. I don't volunteer as often as I should; I haven't written my Moby Dickson yet.

One year ago this week I had my first work published in The DM. You could say that day was my "birthday" - the first day of my adult life that I was happy just because I finally felt alive and was doing what I wanted to do.

There are only 365 days in a year and there a lot more of us than that. So, inevitably, some of you will be celebrating your "birthday" today too - perhaps your first ever.

Boredom is a burden I'll never have to bear again.

Andrew Dickson is a senior religious studies major from Terry, Miss. E-mail him at addickso@olemiss.edu.

TAKING CARE OF THE WORLD WE LIVE IN

BY MEGAN MASSEY
Columnist

I watched "Pocahontas" for the first time in years last weekend while I was home visiting family, and it struck me how early our generation was exposed to ideas of sustainability and caring for the planet.

"Pocahontas," as I'm sure you remember, is the animated Disney film about a Native American princess who prevents a war between her people and European settlers. She meets Captain John Smith and teaches him to see the beauty of the earth and its natural functions, and to see the destruction his people are bringing to her home with the message that it's important to remember everything on earth has "a life, a spirit and a name."

"Captain Planet" is another "green" cartoon from our childhood. In case you were deprived, Captain Planet (and the Planeteers) worked to save the earth from the destruc-

tion caused by pollution. We were told every episode that we "have the power to take pollution down to zero."

But the more I think about the message of this movie and TV show and others like them, the more I think that we have let down our former, albeit animated heroes by making poor decisions every day about the way we use our resources.

Today, ecological problems and social problems are beginning to be more and more intertwined. For example, our addiction to fast food not only affects our own health but the health of people who live in areas with scarce resources. According to the book "Serve God, Save the Planet," many of our fast food restaurants buy meat from Central and South American farmers, which means that these farmers have to clear-cut forests for a place to raise cattle. It leads to a loss

of rain forests and that destruction decreases cloud formation.

Because these clouds would normally travel across the ocean to Africa, it experiences a significant decrease in rainfall. This causes the Sahara Desert to expand, leading to even more starvation for the already undernourished African people. Our cheap burgers are more expensive than we realize.

There's also the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, an area in the Pacific Ocean (some estimates say twice as large as the state of Texas) full of primarily plastic garbage that has almost entirely come from land-based sources. If you Google a picture of it, you'll see that it's mostly everyday trash - bottles, buckets, bags, etc.

The plastic breaks down into small pieces. Once the plastic is in these small pieces, fish in the area begin to eat it and absorb many of the toxins of the

plastic that can be passed on to humans who eat these fish into their systems. This literally huge problem could be solved if we would just recycle our plastic and not be so careless about what we throw away.

I could go on and on with examples of the negative effects of many of our habits, but I would continue to come to the same conclusion: we need to be more aware of the effects of our actions. I'm not perfect; I've contributed to this mess just as much as anyone else but we need to stop this demolition of our home.

So what do I suggest? Listen to the advice of those animated heroes. Pocahontas told John Smith, "You can own the earth, and still, all you'll own is earth until you learn to paint with all the colors of the wind."

Yes, it's a kids song, but her words carry a lot of truth.

We need to learn to see and

appreciate the beauty of the earth. This weekend, take a walk on Whirlpool Trails or have a picnic at Sardis Lake. Appreciate its beauty; then, do what you can to sustain not only the beauty of the earth but her functionality as well.

You don't have to make huge changes right away. Take baby steps: recycle, ride your bike to campus, turn the lights off when you leave a room. We still have a chance to clean up our mess.

Fortunately, neither a Grandmother Willow nor superheroes are needed to fix our ecological problems. All it takes are regular people making wiser choices.

Megan Massey is a junior religious studies major from Mount Olive, Miss. Follow her on Twitter @megan_massey.

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continued from page 1

land. He served on the board for two years doing mostly pro bono legal work before he became interested in local politics and joined the Democratic party.

After meeting the chairman of the local democratic party, Bankhead was introduced to the College Democrats organization at Ole Miss.

From there, he began to get involved in campaigns for other people.

“In 2008, I hosted the local democratic party’s head-

quarters,” Bankhead said. “We had three former governors, (former congressman) Travis Childers and (former governor) Ronnie Musgrove, and a number of people who were running for office come in and out of these doors.”

At the time, Warner McBride was the current representative for the District 10 seat, but when the announcement came that McBride was stepping down, Bankhead decided it was the right place and the right time to run for office.

“My thinking started evolving and I got to a place in my career where I could afford to do that,” he said. “Warner has

been there for 20 years and this opportunity may not come up for another 20 years.”

District 10 covers much of Lafayette County, Eastern Panola County and Tallahatchee County.

Bankhead is running against Doug Jones, a Republican from Panola County; Nolan Mettetal, a Republican and current state senator from Panola County and Tallahatchee resident Greg Hodges who Bankhead must defeat in the Democratic primary Aug. 2. Bankhead said he is focused on making it to Jackson, but recognizes it is a tight race.

“We already have four can-

didates in the race, including a former Democrat who has become a Republican and is a current state senator,” Bankhead said. “I tell people he’s kind of like Goliath and I’m kind of like David.”

Bankhead said he believes Mississippi is on the rise.

“We have a great opportunity here in Mississippi; we have great people and great resources,” he said. “I think Oxford and Panola County are poised to take advantage of that.”

While he tells everyone he is a pro-business Democrat, Bankhead said he will not be a “stooge for big business.”

“I will be a mediator between

all of the pieces that go into providing jobs and a sustainable economy,” he said.

Bankhead, who has been campaigning with a group of volunteers and members of the Ole Miss College Democrats, said his thinking continues to evolve with every person he meets.

Taking a cue from former Chancellor Robert Khayat, Bankhead said he plans to use the same democratic method he uses in his classes to find the right answer.

“That’s what I’m trying to do,” he said. “I don’t believe I have the answers, I believe the people have the answers.”

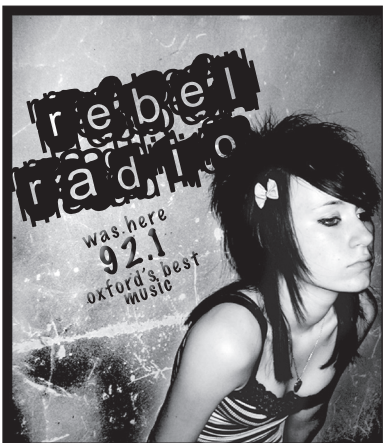
IRS,
continued from page 1

whatever reason. Sometimes the organization goes under. There was no way of knowing.”

For most organizations that appeared on the revoked list, there is a simple reinstatement form on the IRS website.

Any groups that received less than \$25,000 in income during the 2007-2010 period and less than \$50,000 in 2010 and 2011 should be able to re-apply for a reduced fee of \$100 and have the reinstatement applied retroactively to the date of revocation.

For a complete list of the affected organizations or to file for reinstatement, visit IRS.gov.



LIFESTYLES // REVIEW

ANDY’S HORROR REVIEW: PUMPKINHEAD

BY ANDY PAUL
The Daily Mississippian

Although I haven’t been out in days, I can tell it’s summer because a squirrel just spontaneously combusted outside my window. It’s hotter than some Southern cliché I can’t seem to think of right now, folks — I can’t recall anything because the temperature boiled my thought organ ... mind piece ... brain. Whatever. To ignore the hellish outside world, I’ve decided to catch up on all the obscure/glossed over/utterly mediocre horror movies I missed out on this past semester. Over the course of the summer, I’ll review one each week and put a delightful little humorous spin on it. Comedic gold, I say!

Be forewarned, these will contain a variety of spoilers, so if you’d prefer to find out who dies when and how on your own, read no more.

Now, without further ado:

Film No. 1: “Pumpkinhead,” a little gem from 1988 featuring that star of stars, Lance Henriksen.

You may remember him best from roles in such films as “Super Mario Bros.: The Movie,” “Man’s Best Friend” (a movie about a murderous cyborg dog from the looks of it, although I didn’t care enough to find out), as well as the straight-to-DVD release “The Mangler 2.” The first Mangler film centered on a pos-

sessed, vengeful industrial washing machine; an idea so mind-numbingly stupid, they decided to make a sequel just to make sure it couldn’t get any worse. I assume they were proven horrifically wrong.

Anyway, Henriksen actually played Bishop the android in “Aliens” and “Alien 3,” and they are pretty alright, so you might know him from those.

“Pumpkinhead” is a film about a decent, hardworking, insanely-ripped farmer (Henriksen), who loves nothing better than to chop wood shirtless in the mid-day sun in front of his myopic, overalls-sporting little son. They even have a scrappy little pup named Gyp. Sweat glistening off his toned bod, Henriksen pauses occasionally to tell his beloved boy some delightful little anecdote, often ending in a slightly racist or homophobic punch line which farmer, son and pup will laugh and laugh at together. OK, I made that last part up, but I think it’s probably in the director’s cut.

Things just couldn’t get better for Henriksen and his progeny. That is, of course, until dastardly teenage, dirt-bike-riding city folk show up to do what they do best: ride dirt bikes and behave dastardly.

Oh, poor little myopic Henriksen, Jr.! He just couldn’t stay in the house like his papa told him to!

As the teenage hooligans ride their bikes on what appears to be a very nicely kept BMX track in the middle of nowhere, little H. runs out into their path precisely at the wrong time. Junior gets flattened, hooligans and their hooligan girlfriends flee, and Bishop the android must manually reprogram the launch codes for the orbiting space freighter in order to save the marines before the terraforming colony’s nuclear core melts down.

Wait, no. I’m confusing horror movies featuring special effects by Stan Winston from the ‘80s.

Instead, Henriksen follows a local witch’s instructions (prefaced with the obligatory “You’re gonna regret this” speech) and digs up some malformed corpse child, drips blood onto it and resurrects the demon Pumpkinhead to exact revenge on the fleeing punk kids.

Which Pumpkinhead does, of course, in style. Despite everything else, the monster effects in this are pretty cool, and it’s fun to watch P-Head dispatch cowering teens in a variety of ways. I say “variety of ways,” but really this just means dropping them from trees at varying heights. He does that a fair amount, as well as impales a guy with a rifle, demonstrating that demons aren’t schooled in the proper uses of firearms.

Eventually there’s one girl left with a local country boy to help her escape the demon, and just as P-Head seems to be closing in on them, Henriksen has a change of heart, shows up and defeats the monster.

Not that his change of heart comes from learning that violence only begets violence and revenge is a primitive and crass form of justice, but from the fact that he experiences all the pain that the teenagers do when they are tossed from treetops.

So really, he’s still kind of a jerk. Oh, and he kills the Pumpkinhead by killing himself. Because (of course) he has to.

All in all, “Pumpkinhead” isn’t too bad of a horror flick, if only because the titular demon looks pretty awesome.

Despite being R-rated, there really isn’t anything too graphic in it, something I thought would come naturally with the “vengeful hell-spawn” plotline.

In any case, the aforementioned witch’s name is Haggis, which also happens to be the name of a Scottish dish involving various sheep parts stuffed and boiled inside a sheep’s stomach. I don’t know if “Pumpkinhead” is therefore some meta-commentary on Scotland’s sovereignty and heritage, but I’ll take it as such.

Blame my reasoning on heat stroke.

College Sports Talk

with Suzanne Floyd & Erik Ryan Solberg

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SEC football rankings: Special teams

With college football only a few months away, it's time to take an early look at the Southeastern Conference heading into the summer months. Each Friday, The Daily Mississippian's Bennett Hipp will rank the 12 SEC teams by position as part of an eight-week series. Next week: Offensive line



FILE PHOTO | The Daily Mississippian

BY BENNETT HIPPI
The Daily Mississippian

1. Georgia: There's not a more well-rounded special teams unit than the one residing in Athens. Senior kicker Blair Walsh returns after making 20 of 23 field goals last season for an 87-percent field goal percentage, which was second in the conference. Senior Drew Butler averaged just more than 44 yards a punt last season and is one of the SEC's best. The Bulldogs also have a nice pair of return men in senior cornerback Brandon Boykin and junior cornerback Branden Smith.

2. Arkansas: The Razorbacks return one of their best up-and-coming kickers in sophomore Zach Hocker. Hocker connected on seven field goals from outside 40 yards last season and made 16 of 19 overall. Junior punter Dylan Breeding also returns after averaging nearly 43 yards a punt last season. Senior wide receiver Joe Adams is one of the nation's best at returning punts and finished second in the conference in yards-per-punt-return last season.

3. Florida: Two of the conference's best returners reside in Gainesville in sophomore wide receiver Andre Debose and senior running back/wide receiver Chris Rainey. Debose scored two touchdowns returning kicks and averaged 28 yards a return last season. Rainey is one of the fastest players around and will impact the return game with his speed. Junior kicker Caleb Sturgis is back healthy and hopes to get back to his 2009 numbers where he made 22 of 30 field goals. Freshman punter Kyle Christy was one of the highest-rated kickers in the 2011 class and should fit right in this season.

4. Alabama: With Mark Ingram gone, junior Trent Richardson will assume the role as the lead running back, but he will also impact the return game. He averaged almost 27 yards a return and scored a touch-

down last season returning kicks. Senior wide receiver Marquis Maze is a great athlete and has the potential to be one of the best punt returners in the conference. The Tide split kicking duties between junior Jeremy Shelley and sophomore Cade Foster. Shelley was 12 of 16 on field goals, while Foster handled kicks from farther out because of the stronger leg. Sophomore Cody Mandell made the all-freshman team as punter, but is battling freshman Jay Williams for the job.

5. Ole Miss: Junior punter Tyler Campbell led the country in punting as he averaged more than 46 yards a punt. He's been working to improve his hang time on kicks and also his pooch-punting ability. Junior kicker Bryson Rose made 16 of 18 field goals last season and was one of the conference's best. Sophomore running back Jeff Scott added a boost to the return game last season and the Rebels hope junior college transfer Philander Moore can provide a similar impact returning punts this season.

6. Vanderbilt: Commodores junior kicker Ryan Fowler struggled to make kicks outside of the 35-yard line. So, sophomore Carey Spear, who handled kickoffs last season, is making a strong push for the job. Junior punter Richard Kent averaged almost 42 yards per punt last season and was also the busiest punter in the conference with 84 punts. Junior running back Warren Norman is one of the most electric return men around, scoring three touchdowns as a freshman in 2009. He has also recovered after being injured last season.

7. Mississippi State: The Bulldogs have to replace punter Heath Hutchins, but have high hopes for sophomore Baker Swedenburg to step in and fill the spot. Senior kicker Derek DePasquale was 10 of 12 on field goals last season and continues to improve at the position. Electric junior wide receiver Chad Bumphis leads the return game for

Mississippi State.

8. LSU: Replacing both the kicker and punter is what the Tigers face going into the 2011 season. Junior Drew Alleman is the leader to do the kicking and will need to improve his consistency if he wants to have success this season. Redshirt freshman Brad Wing is still learning the nuances of punting and will have to learn on the job. With Patrick Peterson gone to the NFL, junior Rueben Randle and sophomore cornerback Tyrann Mathieu will get the first chances to impact in the return game this season.

9. Kentucky: Junior kicker Craig McIntosh connected on 11 of 15 field goals last season, and senior punter Ryan Tydlacka averaged almost 44 yards per punt last season. The main issue will be replacing return men Randall Cobb and Derrick Locke this season.

10. Tennessee: Sophomore Michael Palardy steps into the kicking role as he tries to replace Daniel Lincoln. Palardy has a strong leg and should do well this season. Freshman Matt Darr will also be learning as he goes as he steps into the punting spot. Talented sophomore wideout DaRick Rogers will be the first option in the return game.

11. Auburn: The defending national champions must replace both their kicker and punter going into the 2011 season. Sophomore kicker Cody Parkey seems to be the guy at kicker, while sophomore Steven Clark sits atop the depth chart at punter. Junior running back Onterio McCalieb is one of the fastest players around and will be a big factor in the return game this season.

12. South Carolina: Spencer Lanning performed kicking and punting duties for the Gamecocks last season before leaving. Senior Jay Wooten emerged as an option at both kicker and punter during the spring. Freshman Damiere Byrd was one of the fastest recruits in the 2011 class and that speed could be put to use in the return game.

An idea worth kicking around

BY ANDREW DICKSON
Columnist

Remember the Ole Miss/Arkansas game in 1999 that included Deuce McAllister's 100-yard kickoff return for a touchdown on the first play?

How about the opening kickoff of the second half of Super Bowl XLIV when the Saints successfully recovered an onside kick? Or Devin Hester's touchdown return at the beginning of Super Bowl XLI during his rookie year?

How might those situations have been different if kickoffs were never implemented?

Would Ole Miss have routed Houston Nutt's Arkansas team in 1999? Would the Saints have won the Super Bowl? Would we even know who Devin Hester is?

It may seem unthinkable at first, but that's exactly what Rutgers coach Greg Schiano has proposed for college football, which would include teams punting from their own 30-yard line after scoring and at the beginning of each half; or they could take a chance on a 4th-and-15 play to try and retain possession instead of trying an onside kick.

Schiano's reasoning is based on the idea that the kickoff is one of the most dangerous plays in football, perhaps based on past experience when Rutgers player Eric LeGrand was paralyzed from the neck down last season while covering a kickoff.

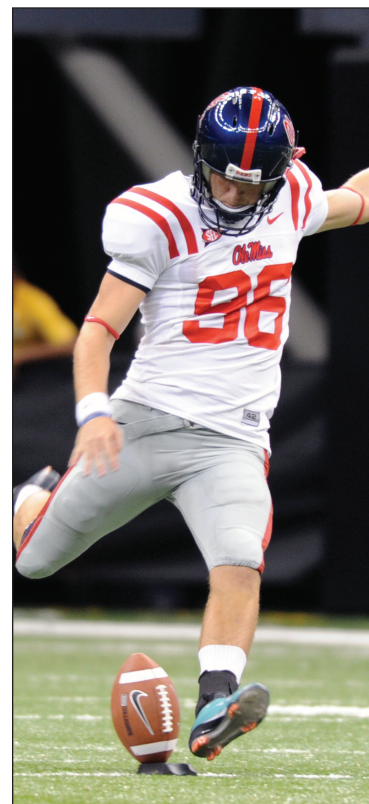
Georgia head coach Mark Richt also had a player suffer a season-ending injury while covering a kickoff last year.

"You've got a bunch of guys that can run fast (who) are not afraid; no one is going to back down," Richt said in an interview with the Athens Banner-Herald. "If it went to a vote, I would vote no for kick-off also. I would just place the ball at the 23-yard line, or whatever the average has been."

Southeastern Conference National Officiating Coordinator Rogers Redding recently said the proposal to abolish kickoffs will be discussed next year by the NCAA Football Rules Committee, according to various news sources.

"It certainly makes sense to explore it," Redding said. "Player safety is first and foremost on the agenda of the rules committee. This will come to the committee and will get some serious consideration, if for no other reason than it's intriguing."

I'm not surprised to hear Richt's opinion since I've always imagined him preaching instead of coaching at what was once a



FILE PHOTO | The Daily Mississippian

Junior Andrew Ritter kicks the ball off after an Ole Miss touchdown in a 27-13 win over Tulane last season. As a team, Ole Miss was tied for fourth in the SEC with 13 touchbacks but was also tied for second with four kickoffs out of bounds.

major college football program. No one supports exposing athletes to more danger than they need to be exposed to and I'm no exception, but how beneficial would removing one of football's most exciting plays actually be for football?

Why stop at kickoffs? Are they any more dangerous than crossing patterns? I know they aren't any more dangerous than punts — what is more dangerous than trying to focus on catching an oblong ball that never drops in a vertical plane with 11 men sprinting toward you?

If we did away with this entire primitive sport, no one would ever get hurt.

But we aren't doing away with it and we shouldn't do away with kickoffs, punts or crossing patterns either, for that matter.

A certain degree of risk to your bones, vital organs, central nervous system and your prospective future should be understood when you sign up to play a collision sport like football.

Coaches should do more to support advancement in helmet and pad technologies if they worry for player safety (especially the helmet, which has become a weapon in the game). If the rules committee is really worried about kickoff safety, they could move the kickoffs back to the 40-yard line to ensure more touch-backs without compromising an important part of the game.

Otherwise we could just call the game "Handegg" or "Rugby."

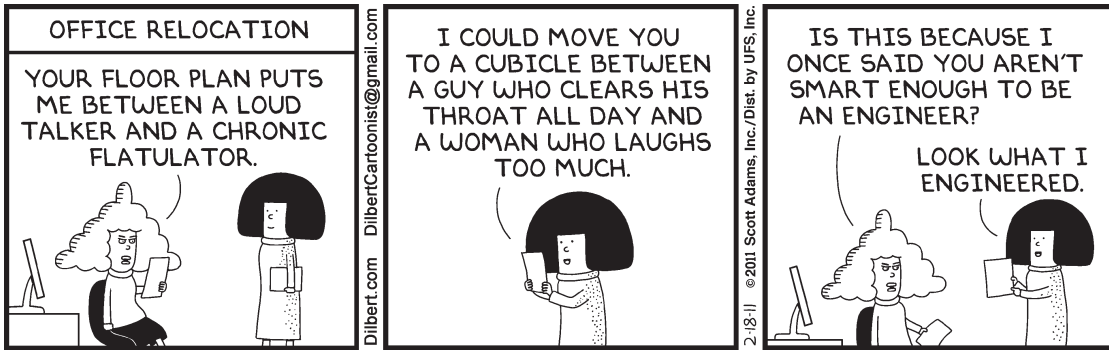
GARFIELD



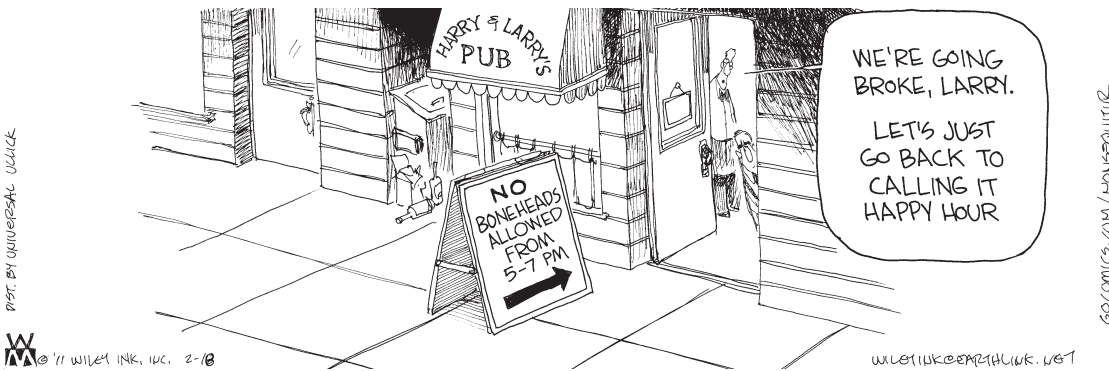
THE FUSCO BROTHERS



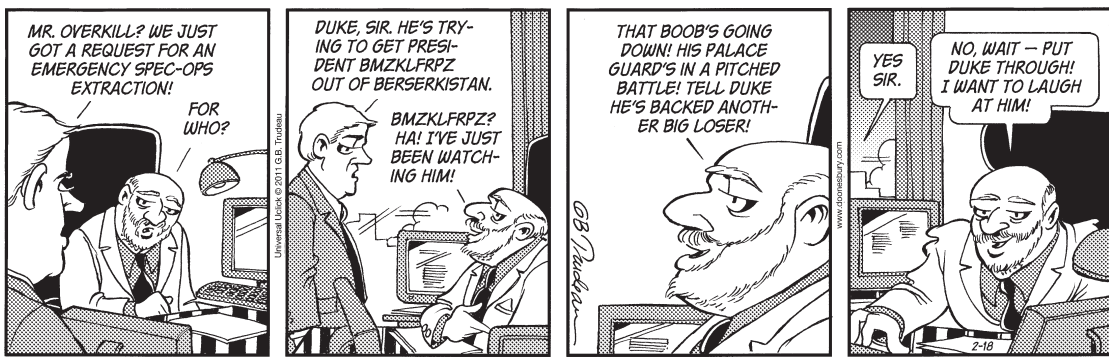
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HOW TO PLAY

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 with no repeats

DIFFICULTY LEVEL

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ACROSS

1 Green parrot
4 Sales pitch
9 Summery
13 Taiga denizen
14 Sri —
15 Country's Fricke
16 Grew quickly
18 Rust or patina
19 Light incense to
20 Attendant
22 "Fire and Ice" singer
25 Spinnaker or jib
26 Flu symptom
28 White-faced
32 Rock concert souvenir
35 Floor models
37 Summa cum —
38 Tacks on
40 Subway patron
42 Tread
43 Without
45 Kind of wave
47 Channel-surf
48 Position
50 Basilica parts
52 Hay unit
54 Snuggled
58 Glamorous
62 Polished and urbane
63 Roger who played 007
64 Real
67 Spiral-horned antelope

telope
68 Emulate Crosby
69 SFO info
70 — Club (retail chain)
71 Melodies
72 Starfish arm

DOWN

1 Shish —
2 Dodge
3 Rubber city
4 Rained ice
5 Kung — chicken
6 Traveler's refuge
7 Just scrapes by
8 Puts cargo aboard
9 Jawbones
10 — for keeps
11 Resort near Venice
12 Forest ruminant
15 Fun-loving
17 — Zeppelin
21 Break-dance music
23 Maintain
24 Pay by mail
27 "The Thinker" sculptor
29 Kwan feat
30 Hunch
31 "Ed Wood" star
32 Woolen caps
33 Revise

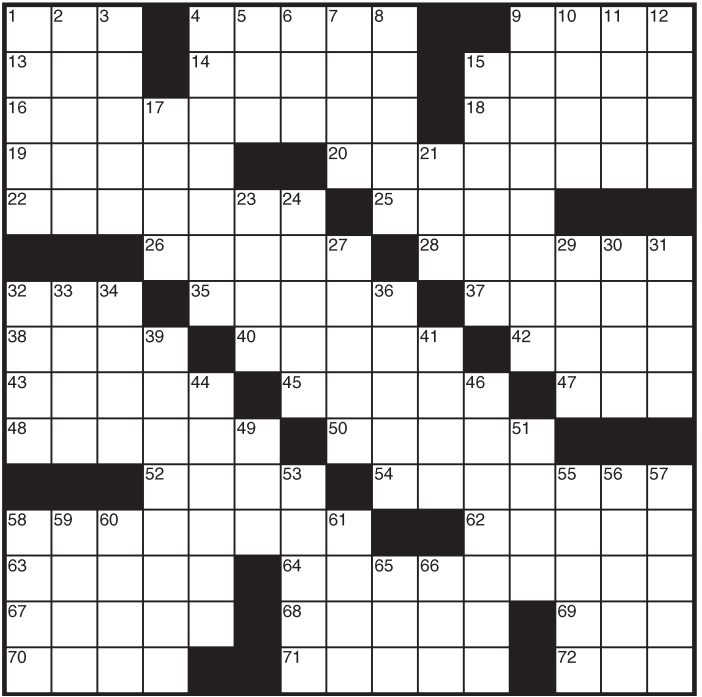
PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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| ARGOT | ZIPPS | FIGS |
| MEAD | TEETH | LEEK |
| MAZE | HUTS | DOSES |
| ODE | HISS | EEO |
| TREE | AVERAGE | |
| LETOFF | STEAM | LEA |
| ALAUT | WARD | ABES |
| THESE | AMIE | LENT |
| HIRED | NEED | SEA |

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34 Millay or Ferber
36 Car for four or more
39 Beach hazards
41 All-night party
44 Terror-stricken
46 Diminishes
49 Ivy Leaguer
51 Leave flabbergasted
53 Pass legislation
55 Down the road
56 A Peron
57 Dental woe

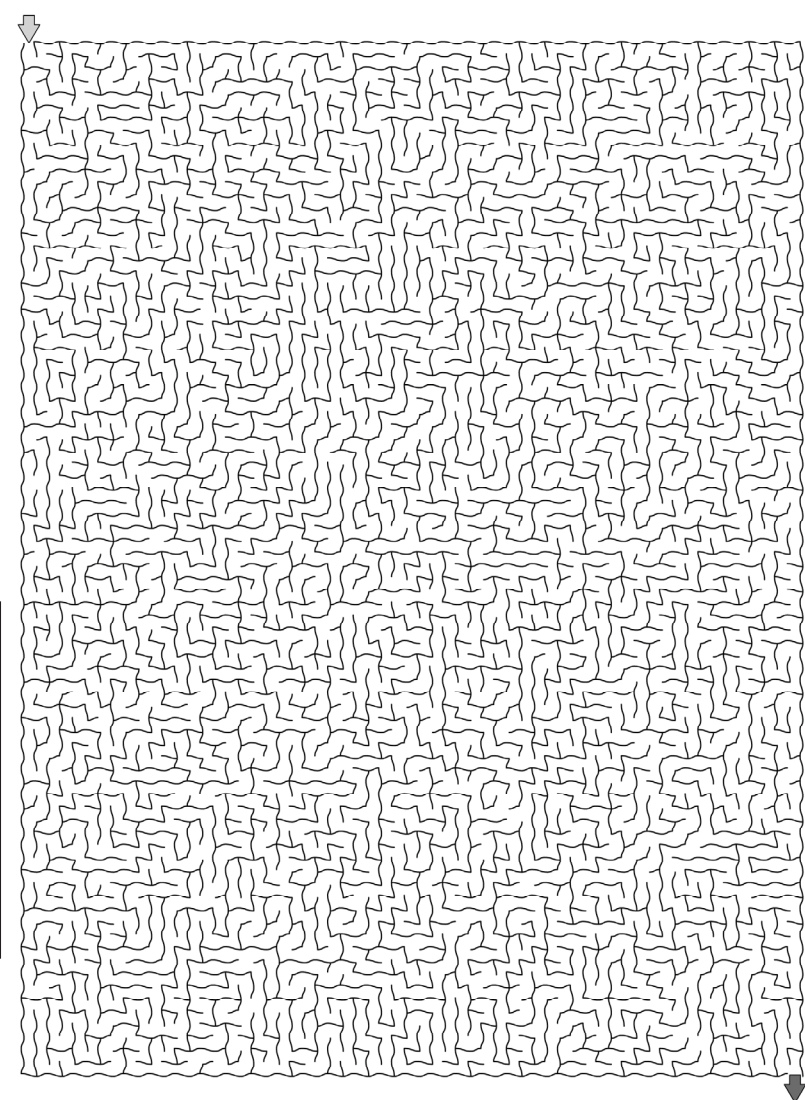
58 City in Iowa
59 "Whatever — Wants"
60 Good farm soil
61 Meditation guide
65 Freight weight
66 Weed whacker



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MOORE LOOKS TO MAKE SPLASH IN RETURN GAME

BY DAVID HENSON
The Daily Mississippian

After a disappointing season, the Ole Miss football team realized it needed to improve its return game. Enter Philander Moore. The 5'9," 195-pound sophomore from Austin, Texas, spent the last two years at Blinn College in Brenham, Texas, before deciding to attend Ole Miss.

After redshirting his freshman season at Blinn, Moore was strong last season, playing receiver and returning kicks. While Moore put up good numbers at receiver, it was his ability in the return game that was most impressive.

Moore racked up 811 total yards on kick and punt returns with six return touchdowns. These numbers helped Moore earn first-team National Junior College Athletic Association All-American honors as a return specialist. He credits his excellent field vision and the ability to turn nothing into something as to what makes him a dangerous return specialist.

His first year at Blinn, Moore played on the same team as last year's Heisman trophy winner, Cam Newton. Moore credits Newton for helping straighten him out.

"I was in trouble quite a bit at junior college," Moore said. "(Cam) really took me under his wing and taught me stuff about life and football. He showed me that you only get what you put into the game. Every day at practice I think about what he told me and now everything I do, I do at 100 percent. That way when I play the game, it gives it back to me."

For Moore, the winning tradition and expectations set by the coaches for the players at Blinn helped ease

the transition to Ole Miss.

"There's a big difference coming into an SEC school, but at the same time my junior college was the best junior college in the nation, hands down," Moore said. "(Blinn) wanted nothing but excellence and (Ole Miss) wants nothing but excellence. The expectation level hasn't changed at all."

While Moore specializes in the return game, the coaches are looking at moving him around and playing him at several different positions on offense. To go along with returning kicks, Moore is also learning to play inside and outside receiver, as well as running back. He said he doesn't expect to play all four positions this year.

"Receiver and being a returner is something I am focusing on hard this year," he said.

Moore is also working hard this summer to improve his flexibility. Added flexibility will allow him to become even faster and quicker than he already is.

"I have all the body work and potential to be at the speed I want to be at, but you can't necessarily get there without flexibility," Moore said. "You have to be flexible to be fast. It's where it comes from."

Ole Miss will enter camp with a quarterback competition. Moore said he has chemistry with both sophomore Barry Brunetti and junior Randall Mackey.

While he feels a two-quarterback system could work if needed, Moore would have to go with Mackey as the front-runner in the quarterback race.

"I'm going to have to go with (Mackey)," he said. "He's been here a little longer and he's used to the offense somewhat. He makes plays. It's as simple as that."



FILE PHOTO | The Daily Mississippian

Sophomore Philander Moore, a junior-college transfer from Blinn College in Texas, makes a catch in spring practice. On offense, he is learning to play both running back and receiver but is expected to make an immediate impact in the return game this season.

Pro football heads to Tupelo for third time

BY JAKE THOMPSON
The Daily Mississippian

With the NFL still locked out, hopes of watching professional football seem slim at best -- unless you live in Tupelo.

The Ultimate Indoor Football League (UIFL) announced last week that Tupelo would become part of a group of expansion arena football teams for the 2012 season.

This will be the third arena football team to play at the Bancorp-South Arena in Tupelo. The most recent team, the Mississippi Mudcats, lasted only two seasons from 2007 to 2008.

Tupelo attorney Jim Waide, majority owner of the now-idle Mudcats, said he does not see himself having any involvement with the new team.

"I was told that a new team would

be coming whether I was a part of it or not," he said.

If Waide decides not to be involved, finding an owner will become a top priority. There has been no information regarding whether UIFL is looking locally, regionally or nationally to fill the spot.

UIFL co-founder Andrew Haines said the league's business plan will offer a more stable atmosphere for the new team.

"The previous business model was upside-down, and teams can only lose money for so long," he said.

The UIFL just completed its inaugural season with all six original teams.

"From the owners I have spoken to, some of them ended up breaking even and a few even finishing in the

black," Haines said.

Todd Hunt, general manager of BancorpSouth Arena, said Tupelo is a great choice for the league given the recent economic boost provided by the new Toyota plant.

"With the Toyota plant being built and adding nearly 2,000 jobs, that is always a good thing," he said.

The arena has signed a one-year deal with UIFL to host seven regular-season home games for the 2012 season.

"If we can average an attendance of 2,000 to 3,000 fans per game, we will be in perfect shape," Hunt said.

The arena can hold nearly 7,000 people at sporting events.

Tupelo has also had a minor league hockey team, as well as an indoor soccer team.

With an arena secured, the next goal is to get the field and equipment needed to host indoor football games.

"The arena has the planter walls (from the previous hockey and football teams) as well as the padding," Hunt said. "The goals are also ours but everything else belongs to the Mudcats."

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